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NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

E-filing

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

CHARLES CATHCART, SCOTT
CATHCART, YURIJ DEBEVC, a/k/a
YURI DEBEVC, ROBERT NAGY,
DERIVIUUM CAPITAL, LLC,
DERIVIUUM CAPITAL (USA), INC., and
VERIDIA SOLUTIONS, LLC,

Defendants.

Civil No.

COMPLAINT FOR PERMANENT
INJUNCTION AND OTHER
EQUITABLE RELIEF

Plaintiff, the United States of America, states as follows for its complaint against
defendants Charles Cathcart; Scott Cathcart; Yurij Debevc, a/k/a Yuri Debevc; Robert Nagy;
Derivium Capital, LLC; Derivium Capital (USA), Inc.; and Veridia Solutions, LLC:

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Jurisdiction and Venue

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action to enjoin defendants from violating and interfering with the administration of the internal revenue laws pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1340 and 1345 and Internal Revenue Code (IRC) (26 U.S.C.) §§ 7402(a) and 7408.

2. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to this claim occurred in this judicial district. In promoting the schemes described herein, each defendant had regular and systematic contacts with residents of this judicial district who participated in the scheme.

Nature of the Action

3. This is a civil action under IRC §§ 7402 and 7408 to enjoin defendants and anyone in active concert or participation with them from promoting tax-fraud schemes, and from engaging in other conduct that interferes with the administration and enforcement of the tax laws, including but not limited through the marketing and execution of the defendants' "90% Loan" program, described in greater detail below.

4. This action has been requested by the Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service, a delegate of the Secretary of the Treasury, and commenced at the direction of a delegate of the Attorney General, pursuant to IRC §§ 7402 and 7408.

5. The United States brings this action to enjoin defendants permanently from:

- (a) Organizing, promoting, marketing, or selling any tax shelter, plan, or other arrangement that advises or encourages others to attempt to violate the internal revenue laws or unlawfully evade the assessment or collection of their federal tax liabilities, including but not limited to the arrangements which are identified in this Complaint and/or which are identified through further discovery in the case;
- (b) Engaging in conduct subject to penalty under IRC § 6700, *i.e.*, by making or furnishing, in connection with the organization or sale of a shelter, plan, or other arrangement, a gross valuation overstatement or a statement about securing any tax benefits that they know or have reason to know is false or fraudulent as to any material federal tax matter, including but not limited to the arrangements which are identified in this Complaint and/or which are identified through further discovery in the case;
- (c) Engaging in any other conduct that interferes with the administration and enforcement of the internal revenue laws.

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6. An injunction is warranted based on defendants' continuing violation of the internal revenue laws, including engaging in conduct subject to penalty under IRC §§ 6700 and 6701.

Defendants

7. On information and belief defendant Charles Cathcart resides in Santa Barbara, California.

8. Defendant Scott Cathcart resides in Ross, California.

9. Defendants Yurij Debevc, a/k/a Yuri Debevc, and Robert Nagy reside in Charleston, South Carolina.

10. Defendant Derivium Capital, LLC, ("Derivium"), is a South Carolina limited liability company. Its principal place of business is Parkshore Centre, One Poston Road, Suite 125, Charleston, South Carolina.

11. Defendant Derivium is owned 50% by defendant Charles Cathcart, 25% by defendant Scott Cathcart, and 25% by defendant Debevc.

12. Defendant Derivium has filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection in the District of South Carolina. This action is exempt from the Bankruptcy Code's automatic stay provisions by virtue of 11 U.S.C. § 362(b)(4), which exempts from the automatic stay "an action or proceeding by a governmental unit . . . to enforce such governmental unit's or organization's police and regulatory power[.]"

13. Defendant Derivium Capital (USA), Inc., ("Derivium USA"), is a Delaware corporation registered to do business in the State of South Carolina.

14. Defendant Derivium USA is owned by defendant Charles Cathcart.

15. Defendant Veridia Solutions, LLC, ("Veridia"), is a South Carolina limited liability company. Its principal place of business is Parkshore Centre, One Poston Road, Suite 125, Charleston, South Carolina.

16. Defendant Veridia is owned by defendant Debevc.

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Defendants' Tax-Fraud Activities

17. Defendants collectively market and implement various schemes that they falsely claim will enable customers to avoid federal income tax on capital gains from the sale or exchange of the customers' securities.

18. The primary scheme at issue is the so-called "90% Loan," in particular, the "90% Stock Loan" and the "ESOP QRP Loan" (which was formerly called the "ESOP Qualified Asset Loan"), which defendants market to and implement for customers. As set forth in more detail below, in marketing this scheme defendants falsely advise customers that they can receive 90% of the value of their securities without paying income tax on the capital gains. Defendants implemented the scheme for hundreds of customers nationwide, with total transactions thus far of somewhat more than \$1 billion, resulting in the failure to report and pay hundreds of millions of dollars in federal income taxes.

19. Defendants have also marketed other "90% Loan" products, including but not limited to "Option Conversion Loans," "MicroCap Loans," "Foreign Stock Loans," and "Restricted Stock Loans," which on information and belief also are designed and intended illegally to allow customers to receive approximately 90% of the value of their securities without paying income tax on the capital gains.

20. On information and belief, defendants are currently marketing and implementing a 90% Loan product involving the use of foreign trusts.

21. As explained below, defendants have frequently changed the identities of the entities through which they conduct their activities, without fundamentally changing the nature of those activities.

Defendants' Tax-Fraud Activities—History

22. Charles Cathcart has a Ph.D. in monetary economics from the University of Virginia. He has worked for more than 20 years in commercial and investment banking, including working with derivatives and related financial products.

23. In 1997, Charles Cathcart founded First Security Capital ("FSC"), a Texas company through which he (with others) marketed the 90% Stock Loan scheme described further below.

24. In early 1998, FSC relocated to Charleston, South Carolina, where it continued to be involved with 90% Stock Loans and the other transactions that are the subject of this Complaint.

25. In 2000, FSC's name changed to "Derivium Capital, LLC."

26. Debevc has worked in the financial services industry for more than 20 years and was at one point an associate of Charles Cathcart's while Cathcart was employed at CitiBank as the chief economist for the bank's eastern division.

27. Sometime before 1999, Debevc became involved in managing Derivium Capital at its Charleston headquarters, including marketing and executing 90% Loans and the other transactions which are the subject of this Complaint.

28. Scott Cathcart is Charles Cathcart's son.

29. Sometime before 1999, Scott Cathcart opened an office for FSC (subsequently Derivium Capital) in San Francisco. From that location, he worked to market and execute 90% Stock Loans and the other transactions described in this Complaint.

30. Robert Nagy is a Certified Public Accountant and is a longtime associate of Charles Cathcart.

31. Nagy is the sole owner of Meridian Services Ltd. As Meridian's owner, Nagy has served as the "outside accountant" for Derivium Capital, and he has represented both Derivium and Derivium's customers before the IRS and other administrative bodies.

1 32. Nagy has also prepared written tax advice regarding the 90% Stock Loan and
2 provided that advice to persons promoting 90% Stock Loans on behalf of, or in association with,
3 Derivium.

4 33. Nagy has also promoted 90% Stock Loans to individuals.

5 34. In 2002, Charles Cathcart formed Derivium USA.

6 35. From the time of its formation, Derivium USA took over the marketing function of
7 Derivium Capital with respect to the 90% Stock Loans and the other transactions which are the
8 subject of this Complaint.

9 36. In 2002, Debevc formed Veridia.

10 37. From the time of its formation, Veridia took over the administrative functions of
11 Derivium Capital with respect to 90% Stock Loans and the other transactions which are the
12 subject of this Complaint.

13 38. As explained in more detail below, the 90% Loan scheme required a nominal
14 "offshore lender" to provide the funds.

15 39. From the beginning of the scheme until some time in 2000, the "offshore lender"
16 used for the scheme was Diversified Design Associates ("DDA"), a company controlled in whole
17 or in part by Charles Cathcart.

18 40. In 1998, FSC and DDA entered into an "Investment & Loan Agreement" by which
19 FSC and DDA agreed to market and execute 90% Stock Loan arrangements in the United States
20 and Canada.

21 41. In 2000, Charles Cathcart caused the formation of Bancroft Ventures Ltd. ("BVL") in
22 the Isle of Mann. BVL and defendant Derivium Capital then executed two contracts: (1) a Stock
23 Loan Administration Agreement, by which BVL acquired all of DDA's 90% Stock Loans, and
24 (2) a Stock Loan Marketing & Administration Agreement, by which Derivium Capital agreed to
25 market 90% Stock Loans for BVL.

1 42. In 2002, a Hong Kong entity named Optech Limited ("Optech") replaced BVL as the
2 offshore lender.

3 43. On information and belief, Optech and Veridia (which by then had replaced
4 Derivium in the 90% Loan scheme) entered into an arrangement in or around 2002 similar to the
5 arrangements between (1) DDA and Derivium, and (2) BVL and Derivium, by which Optech
6 agreed to serve as the "offshore lender" for 90% Loans marketed by Veridia.

7 44. At some point in 2002, Charles Cathcart caused the formation of WITCO Services
8 (UK) Limited or Windward Isles Trust Company ("WITCO") in England. WITCO either
9 partially replaced BVL as the offshore lender or was an agent for the offshore lender in 2002 and
10 2003. On information and belief, during the beginning of 2004, WITCO transferred or sold most
11 or all of its 90% Loans to Optech.

12 45. On information and belief, WITCO and Veridia had entered into an arrangement in
13 or around 2002 similar to the arrangements between (1) DDA and Derivium Capital, (2) BVL
14 and Derivium Capital, and (3) Optech and Veridia, by which WITCO agreed to serve as the agent
15 for the offshore lender or as the "offshore lender" for 90% Stock Loans and other 90% Loan
16 products, particularly the ESOP QRP Loans, marketed by Veridia.

17 46. On information and belief, at some point in 2006, Veridia had largely ceased
18 operations and BVL, Optech and/or WITCO began to administer the 90% Loan products,
19 particularly the ESOP QRP Loan, at the direction of the defendants.

20 **Mechanics of the Fraudulent 90% Loan Scheme**

21 47. Defendants marketed the 90% Stock Loan initially to people who held appreciated
22 stock with a relatively low basis, promising (as set forth in ¶¶ 48-72 below) that the transaction
23 would allow customers to "monetize" their stock without paying any federal income tax on
24 capital gain.

25 48. Defendants also marketed the ESOP QRP Loan to people who have (1) established
26 an employee stock ownership plan ("ESOP") in which they have sold their shares in their closely

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1 held corporation to the ESOP; (2) reinvested the proceeds in qualified replacement property
2 (“QRP”) in the form of stock, floating rate notes (“FRN”), or a combination of both; and (3)
3 elected to defer recognition of gain from the sale of their shares under section 1042(a) of the
4 Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C.). Defendants promised that the transaction would allow
5 customers to “monetize” their QRP without paying any federal income tax on capital.

6 49. As set forth in detail below, defendants told customers that an offshore lender would
7 lend the customers funds equal to 90% of their securities’ value and then hold the securities as
8 collateral while defendants used purported sophisticated “proprietary hedging techniques” to
9 preserve the securities’ value.

10 50. In fact there were no sophisticated hedging techniques. The defendants simply
11 caused the securities to be sold and used the proceeds to fund the 90% “loan,” keeping the
12 remaining 10% for themselves and others who helped implement the scheme. The 90% Loan
13 transactions were, in substance and in fact, simply sales of customers’ securities disguised as
14 loans so as to evade income tax on the capital gains from the sales.

15 51. To implement the 90% Loan scheme, a customer transferred the subject stock or
16 FRN to defendants’ designated account at brokerages such as Wachovia Securities, LLC; Janney
17 Montgomery Scott, LLC; or Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc. Defendants, either directly or
18 through BVL, Optech, or WITCO then caused the brokerage to sell the stock or FRN and had
19 90% of the sale proceeds remitted back to the customer as the purported “loan.”

20 52. The remaining 10% was then allocated among the defendants and the purported
21 “offshore lenders,” as compensation for their designing and implementing the fraudulent scheme.

22 53. In virtually all instances, defendants simply sold the customers’ securities
23 immediately to fund the sham loan back to the customer.

24 54. In the case of the 90% Loans involving stock, the typical loan terms are as follows:
25 (1) a term of not less than three years; (2) an interest rate higher than market rate; (3) repayment
26 of principal before maturity is prohibited (but in earlier years of the scheme, repayment of

1 interest was also prohibited); (4) the "loan" is nonrecourse to the customer; and (5) any dividend
2 payable on the stock is credited to interest.

3 55. In the case of the ESOP QRP Loan involving an FRN, the typical loan terms are as
4 follows — (1) a term of 20 to 40 years; (2) an interest rate higher than market rate; (3) the "loan"
5 is nonrecourse to the customer; and (3) net interest payments are fixed for the life of the "loan."
6 Defendants convert the floating rate of interest of the FRN to a fixed rate to offset the higher rate
7 of interest charged on the "loan," which results in fixed net interest payments for the customer.

8 56. At the end of the 90% "loan" period, defendants' customers (at least some of whom
9 are apparently unaware that defendants caused the sale of the securities to fund the purported
10 loans) were presented with three main options: (1) ending the transaction consensually, (2)
11 continuing the transaction, or (3) simply walking away. These options are described in ¶¶ 58-72,
12 *infra*. In the case of ESOP QRP Loans involving FRNs, because the terms of the "loan" are 20 to
13 40 years, no loan period has yet come to an end.

14 57. The first main option is to end the transaction, either by paying off the "loan" (if the
15 customer wants the security back) or surrendering the security (when the customer does not want
16 it back).

17 58. To pay off the "loan," a customer must pay off principal and the accrued, above-
18 market rate of interest; in return, the customer hypothetically receives back the same number of
19 shares of the stock or an amount equal to the face value of the FRN initially transferred to the
20 defendants.

21 59. This course of action would be prudent only if the security's value had increased so
22 much that a customer would still turn a profit if he or she paid back the principal and above-
23 market interest and the necessarily high income tax on the subsequent sale of the security. And
24 of course this would be feasible only if the defendants had sufficient funds to buy back the
25 security in order to transfer it to the customer.

26 60. Alternatively, a customer could end the purported loan without receiving the security

1 back. In this case, the customer would receive cash equal to 100% of the amount by which the
2 value of the security exceeded the amount due under the "loan."

3 61. On information and belief, customers rarely paid off the purported loans, especially
4 given the more attractive options set forth below. But customers elected to reacquire their
5 collateral frequently enough to cause massive problems for defendants, in light of the fact that
6 defendants had sold the "collateral" at the outset to fund the purported loans.

7 62. In these instances, defendants had to find funds either to obtain valuable replacement
8 securities or to pay surrendering customers. But defendants had no such funds available. The
9 90% Loan scheme therefore had the characteristics of a Ponzi scheme, in which the proceeds of
10 new transactions were used to fund shortfalls in prior sham transactions.

11 63. Moreover, in some instances defendants were unable to replace the stock as required
12 for customers paying off their loans because defendants lacked funds to do so. Several of
13 defendants' customers have filed lawsuits against them for these defaults, and on information and
14 belief the associated financial pressures contributed to defendant Derivium's bankruptcy filing.
15 For example, one customer transferred as "collateral" roughly \$3 million of stock to defendants,
16 which after three years resulted in a "loan" balance of loan balance of \$5 million. At that time,
17 the value of the customer's stock had risen to over \$15 million, but defendants had previously
18 sold the stock and lacked funds to reacquire replacement stock when the customer asked for the
19 stock back. On information and belief, however, notwithstanding Derivium's bankruptcy,
20 defendants have continued to promote this or other fraudulent schemes through entities other
21 than Derivium.

22 64. The second main option at the end of the loan term was to continue the transaction,
23 either by "refinancing" it, when the security's value at the end of the loan is greater than the
24 amount due on the loan, or "renewing" it, when the security's value at the end of the loan is less
25 than that amount. "Refinancing" resulted in a net payment to the customer (90% of the increase
26 in value), while "renewing" required a payment by the customer of a small renewal fee. In either

1 case, though, the transaction would be extended (with new, even higher rates of interest) until
2 whatever maturity date the customer chose.

3 65. As set forth in more detail below, defendants falsely told customers that this option
4 allowed them to delay any tax implications until the end of the transaction, which could be as
5 long as the customer chose.

6 66. The final main options were for the parties simply to walk away from the transaction,
7 either after giving notice of an intent to do so or by failing timely to elect another option
8 (“forfeit”).

9 67. On information and belief, these options were also rarely selected. It is true that,
10 because the “loans” were nonrecourse, a customer could walk away without further risk. But
11 defendants warned customers that these options could result in taxable events, which customers
12 undertook the 90% Loan precisely to avoid.

13 68. Given that they could supposedly achieve indefinite tax deferral by continuing the
14 transaction, few customers would choose this option. Defendants, however, did not issue Forms
15 1099 when these options were chosen, making it less likely that the customer would actually
16 report any income or pay any income tax.

17 69. Based on the facts set forth above, and contrary to defendants’ claims, the 90% Loans
18 are not true loans. Instead, the 90% Loans are in substance simply a disguised sale of securities,
19 and the “loan” proceeds are taxable capital gain to the customer upon receipt to the extent that
20 the sale price of the security (not the 90% loan payment) exceeded the customers’ basis in the
21 security.

22 70. Although characterized as loans, the 90% Loan scheme in fact involved sales because
23 defendants acquired the benefits and burdens of owning their customers’ securities. After a
24 customer participated in the scheme, defendants acquired, *inter alia*, sole possession and control
25 of the securities (including voting rights), and the right to sell the securities. In addition,
26 defendants assumed nearly all of the risk of loss or potential for appreciation related to the

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1 transferred securities. Because defendants acquired the securities for 90% of their value,
2 defendants would bear any decline in the securities' value that exceeded 10%. Unlike a typical
3 stock margin loan, defendants' customers were not required to post more cash or collateral if the
4 stock price declined.

5 71. In addition, if the price of the security rose but did not rise above the payoff amount,
6 then defendants would derive the benefit of this gain, because in these circumstances their
7 customers would presumably not exercise their right to pay off the loan. Because loan terms
8 permitted defendants' customers to perpetually renew the purported loan, it was possible that no
9 interest or principal would ever be paid. Also, any dividends paid on the securities would benefit
10 defendants because the dividends would be credited against accrued interest, which interest
11 would in fact never be paid by the customer transferring the security.

12 72. Lastly, defendants' customers received 90% of the value of the security, which is
13 adequate consideration in light of the fact that the customers also received for this price the right
14 to purportedly reacquire the security with a greater value in the future. Since the purported loan
15 was non-recourse, the customer was free to walk away from the transaction and not repay the
16 loan if the security price declined below the loan pay-off amount (or if customers had insufficient
17 funds to pay off the loan at maturity).

18 90% Loan Scheme — False Statements

19 73. In connection with their organization, sale, and promotion of the 90% Loan scheme,
20 defendants make material statements about the tax benefits of participating in the scheme that
21 are, and which they know to be, false and fraudulent.

22 74. These statements include, *inter alia*, claims:

- 23 a. That the 90% Loans are loans (which are not subject to tax), when in fact they are
24 sales (which are subject to tax on the capital gains);
- 25 b. That the 90% Loans allow for potentially indefinite deferral of tax on the money
26 received, when in fact tax is due immediately because the proceeds are the product
27 of a sale and not a loan;
- 28 c. That defendants will engage in "hedging transactions" to protect the value of the

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1 security when in fact defendants simply sell the security and keep 10% either as
2 profit or to invest in their own companies.

3 75. With respect to the claim that the 90% Loan and the ESOP QRP Loan are loans
4 instead of sales, defendants have made the following specific false statements:

- 5 a. "Generate liquidity without triggering a taxable event You don't have to sell
6 your shares and trigger a tax liability (because loans are not taxable events). In
7 fact, depending on your individual tax situation, the 90% Stock Loansm may even
8 enable you to generate more cash than selling the position outright, net of capital
9 gains tax liabilities."
- 10 b. "Superior Terms for the Monetization of FRNs: The terms of an ESOP QRP
11 Loansm are unbeatable. In the case of FRNs, the ESOP QRP Loansm offers
12 exceptionally low interest rates. As a result, the net quarterly interest payment due
13 (i.e., the interest payment on the ESOP QRP Loansm less the interest earned on the
14 FRNs) is typically the lowest available in today's market. In addition, the net
15 payment due is fixed for the life of the loan, and the life of the loan can be set as
16 far out as the first call date of the FRN."

17 76. With respect to the claim that the 90% Loan and the ESOP QRP Loan are not taxable
18 events, defendants have made the following specific false statements:

- 19 a. "With the tax season upon us, you might be tempted to sell stock to pay
20 capital gains taxes. Instead, let us suggest using our 90% Stock Loan as a
21 better way to generate the cash needed. After all, there's no sense in
22 triggering another tax hit that you'll then have to contend with next year.
23 Our unique structures can help you achieve the liquidity you need while
24 you maintain upside potential with downside protection. And they don't
25 nibble away at principal."
- 26 b. "For Floating Rate Notes: If the proceeds from an ESOP have been or are
27 going to be reinvested into FRNs, the ESOP QRP Loansm program can be
28 used to generate loan proceeds as high as 95% of the market value of the
notes without triggering a taxable event."
- 29 c. For Equities: If the borrower plans to reinvest or has reinvested into stocks
instead of FRNs, the borrower can utilize the ESOP QRP Loansm under
terms similar to those of the 90% Stock Loansm program. By submitting
equities as collateral, the borrower maintains the opportunity for long term
appreciation inherent in equity investments (which the borrower would be
able to access on the repayment of the loan)."

30 77. With respect to the claim that the 90% Loan and the ESOP QRP Loan involve
31 hedging transactions, defendants have made the following specific false statements:

- 1 a. "Step 3: Next you arrange to transfer your collateral to a special purpose
2 account at one of our preferred brokerage firms. Subsequently, hedging
3 transactions are established for the positions.

4 Step 4: Your cash loan proceeds will be wired to your designated account
5 within two business days after the hedging process has been completed.

6 Loan Amount: 90% of the market value of collateral submitted upon
7 completion of appropriate hedging transactions.

8 Loan Closing: Upon receipt of securities and establishment of hedging
9 transactions."

- 10 b. "For Floating Rate Notes: The interest rate for the ESOP QRP Loansm on FRNs is
11 expressed as a spread above the rate paid on the Floating Rate Note on the date(s)
12 of the establishment of hedging transactions.

13 Next Steps: Next, you arrange to transfer your collateral to a special purpose
14 account at one of our preferred brokerage firms. Subsequently, hedging
15 transactions are established for the positions.

16 Your cash proceeds will be wired to your designated account within two business
17 days after the hedging process has been completed."

18 78. In connection with each variation of the 90% Loan scheme, defendants made the
19 following false statements regarding ownership and control over their customers' collateral
20 security on Derivium's "Master Agreement:"

- 21 a. Derivium would be the "custodian" of the security used as collateral;
22 b. Derivium was "authorized to act on behalf of" borrowers "for the purposes of
23 . . . voting shares and receiving dividends or interest on securities held as
24 collateral";
25 c. Derivium "agrees to return, at the end of the loan term, the same collateral (or
26 cash equivalent)"; and
27 d. Derivium could place the collateral "with any domestic or foreign depository
28 or clearing corporation"

79. All of these representations are false. Defendants made them to create the false
impression that the collateral securities would be maintained safely.

Harm to the Government

80. Defendants' tax-fraud scheme causes significant harm to the Government by
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1 helping customers evade taxes and obstruct IRS efforts to administer the federal tax laws.

2 81. The Internal Revenue Service is harmed because it must dedicate scarce resources to
3 detecting and examining inaccurate returns filed by defendants' customers, and to attempting to
4 assess and collect unpaid taxes.

5 82. Thus far the IRS has completed examinations related to 189 individuals that
6 participated in the fraudulent 90% Loan transactions. The IRS determined that those 189
7 individuals under-reported the amount of income tax owed by \$23,176,692. The total tax loss,
8 including penalties, resulting from defendants' scheme related to these 189 individuals'
9 participation in defendants' 90% Loan scheme equals \$26,078,345, and an average deficiency of
10 approximately \$137,981 per customer.

11 83. For example, one of defendants' customers, an engineer from Hermosa Beach, CA,
12 purchased stock sometime before 2001 for \$36,148. In 2001, the engineer used the defendants'
13 90% loan scheme to dispose of this stock, which was by then worth over \$700,000. The IRS
14 audited his 2001 federal income tax return and in 2005 the engineer agreed with the IRS that he
15 had under-reported his 2001 taxable income by \$677,777, and owed an additional \$231,005 in
16 income tax for 2001, plus interest.

17 84. Defendant Charles Cathcart has stated that over 1,700 individuals participated in the
18 scheme, in transactions totaling over \$1 billion.

19 85. Based on the average deficiency calculated by the IRS, the tax loss could be as much
20 as \$234,567,700 ($\$137,981 \times 1,700$).

21 **Count I: Injunction under IRC § 7408 for violations of §§ 6700 & 6701**

22 86. The United States incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1
23 through 85.

24 87. IRC § 7408 authorizes this Court to enjoin persons who have engaged in conduct
25 subject to penalty under IRC § 6700 from engaging in further such conduct if the Court finds that
26 injunctive relief is appropriate to prevent recurrence of the conduct.

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1 88. Section 6700 imposes a penalty on any person who organizes or participates in the
2 sale of a plan or arrangement and in so doing makes a statement with respect to the allowability
3 of any deduction or credit, the excludability of any income, or the securing of any other tax
4 benefit by participating in the plan or arrangement which that person knows or has reason to
5 know is false or fraudulent as to any material matter.

6 89. Defendants organize or participate in the sale of the 90% Loan plan or arrangement
7 and in so doing make false statements with respect to the securing of tax benefits by participating
8 in the plan or arrangement, which defendants know or have reason to know are false or
9 fraudulent as to material matters.

10 90. On information and belief defendants promote other schemes and in connection
11 therewith engage in other conduct subject to the IRC § 6700 penalty.

12 91. Injunctive relief is appropriate to prevent recurrence of the 90% Loan Scheme and
13 any other conduct subject to the IRC § 6700 penalty.

14 92. Section 6701 penalizes any person who prepares a document that he has reason to
15 believe will be used in connection with any material matter arising under the internal revenue
16 laws and who knows that the document, if so used, would result in an understatement of another
17 person's tax liability.

18 93. Defendants prepare false and fictitious loan agreements and other documents that
19 defendants know would, if used, result in understatements of their customers' income tax
20 liabilities.

21 94. Injunctive relief is also appropriate to prevent recurrence of the 90% Loan Scheme
22 and any other conduct subject to the IRC § 6701 penalty.

23 **Count II: Injunction under IRC § 7402**

24 95. The United States incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1
25 through 94.

26 96. IRC 7402(a) authorizes a court to issue injunctions as may be necessary or

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1 appropriate for the enforcement of the internal revenue laws, even if the United States has other
2 remedies available for enforcing those laws.

3 97. As described in paragraphs 47-85, defendants substantially interfere with the
4 enforcement of the internal revenue laws by promoting their tax-fraud schemes.

5 98. Defendants' conduct results in irreparable harm to the United States for which the
6 United States has no adequate remedy at law.

7 99. Unless enjoined by this Court, defendants are likely to continue to continue to engage
8 in such conduct. The United States is entitled to injunctive relief under IRC § 7402(a).

9 WHEREFORE, plaintiff, the United States of America, prays for the following relief:

10 A. That the Court find that defendants have engaged in conduct subject to penalty under
11 IRC § 6700, and that injunctive relief is appropriate under IRC § 7408 to prevent them and their
12 representatives, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, and those persons in active concert or
13 participation with them, from further such conduct;

14 B. That the Court find that defendants have engaged in conduct subject to penalty under
15 IRC § 6701, and that injunctive relief is appropriate under IRC § 7408 to prevent them and
16 anyone acting in concert with them, from further such conduct;

17 C. That the Court find that defendants have engaged in conduct that interferes with the
18 administration and enforcement of the internal revenue laws, and that injunctive relief against
19 them and their representatives, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, and those persons in active
20 concert or participation with them is appropriate to prevent the recurrence of that conduct under
21 the Court's equity powers and IRC § 7402(a);

22 D. That pursuant to IRC §§ 7402(a) and 7408, defendants, and anyone acting in concert
23 with them, be enjoined and restrained from, directly or indirectly, by use of any means or
24 instrumentalities:

- 25 (a) Organizing, promoting, marketing, or selling any tax shelter, plan or
26 arrangement that advises or assists others to attempt to violate the internal
27 revenue laws or unlawfully evade the assessment or collection of their
28 federal tax liabilities;

United States of America's Complaint

- 1 (b) Engaging in conduct subject to penalty under IRC § 6700, *i.e.*, by making or
2 furnishing, in connection with the organization or sale of a shelter, plan, or
3 arrangement, a gross valuation overstatement or a statement about the securing of
4 any tax benefit that they know or have reason to know to be false or fraudulent as
5 to any material federal tax matter;
6
7 (c) Engaging in activity subject to penalty under IRC § 6701, including preparing or
8 assisting in the preparation of, or advising with respect to a document related to a
9 matter material to the internal revenue laws that includes a position that they
10 know will, if used, result in an understatement of tax liability;
11
12 (d) Engaging in any conduct that interferes with the administration and enforcement
13 of the internal revenue laws.

14 E. That this Court, under IRC §§ 7402 and 7408, enter an injunction requiring defendants
15 to contact all persons with whom they engaged in the 90% Loan transactions and inform those
16 persons of the entry of the Court's findings and the fact that an injunction has been entered
17 against them.

18 F. That this Court, under IRC §§ 7402 and 7408, enter an injunction requiring defendants
19 and their representatives, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, and anyone in active concert or
20 participation with them, to give to counsel for the United States a list of the names, addresses, e-
21 mail addresses, telephone numbers, and Social Security and federal tax identification numbers of
22 all persons and entities who have participated in defendants' 90% Loan scheme.

23 G. That this Court allow the United States full post-judgment discovery to monitor
24 compliance with the injunction;

25 H. That this Court retain jurisdiction over this action for purposes of implementing and
26 enforcing the final judgment and any additional orders necessary and appropriate to the public
27 interest; and
28

1
2 I. That the Court grant the United States such other and further relief as the Court deems
3 appropriate.
4

5 SCOTT N. SCHOOLS
United States Attorney

6 THOMAS MOORE
Assistant United States Attorney
7 Chief, Tax Division

8 *Moore for T. Newman*

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27 United States of America's Complaint
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CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE TWO.)

I.(a) PLAINTIFFS UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)	DEFENDANTS CHARLES CATHCART, SCOTT CATHCART, YURIJ DEBEVC, ROBERT NAGY, DERIVUM CAPITAL, LLC, DERIVUM CAPITAL (USA), and VERIDIA SOLUTION, LLC, COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED DEFENDANT _____ (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.
(c) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER) Thomas M. Newman, P.O. Box 7238, Ben Franklin Station, Washington DC 20044	ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIFF AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT)																								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff <input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party) <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th></th> <th>PTF</th> <th>DEF</th> <th></th> <th>PTF</th> <th>DEF</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen of This State</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 1</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 1</td> <td>Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 4</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen of Another State</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 2</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 2</td> <td>Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 5</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 3</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 3</td> <td>Foreign Nation</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 6</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 6</td> </tr> </table>		PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF	Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
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Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6																				
IV. ORIGIN (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)																									
<input type="checkbox"/> Original Proceeding <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Removed from State Court <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Remanded from Appellate Court <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Reinstated or Reopened <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Transferred from Another district (specify) <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Multidistrict Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment																									

V. NATURE OF SUIT (PLACE AN "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)					
CONTRACT	TORTS		FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury Med Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth In Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws <input type="checkbox"/> 640 RR & Truck <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other LABOR <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt Reporting & Disclosure Act <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl.Ret. Inc. Security Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/etc. <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Satellite TV <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIONS			
<input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer w/ disab - Empl <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer w/ disab - Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motion to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus: <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition			

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE US CIVIL STATUTE UNDER WHICH YOU ARE FILING AND WRITE BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE. DO NOT CITE JURISDICTIONAL STATUTES UNLESS DIVERSITY)

26 U.S.C. 7402 and 7408, suit to enjoin tax-fraud scheme promotion.

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: ☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION DEMAND \$ _____ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:
 UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 JURY DEMAND: ☐ YES ☒ NO

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY PLEASE REFER TO CIVIL L.R. 3-12 CONCERNING REQUIREMENT TO FILE "NOTICE OF RELATED CASE"

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (CIVIL L.R. 3-2)

(PLACE AND "X" IN ONE BOX ONLY)

☒ SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND

☐ SAN JOSE

DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

9/17/7

[Signature]